

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 03092 201031Z

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ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-03 INT-05 COME-00 SP-02

AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04

OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5037

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, PL

SUBJECT: US-POLISH BILATERAL FISHING DISCUSSIONS

DELIVER TO OES-DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY CLINGAN AND WILLIAM L.  
SULLIVAN OOB MAY 20

1. OPENING OUR MEETING MAY 19, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER  
SPASOWSKI SAID HE HAD ASKED ME TO CALL ON HIM BECAUSE  
HE WAS AUTHORIZED TO PRESENT THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE  
POLISH GOVERNMENT ON THE TALKS WHICH VICE MINISTER OF  
FOREIGN TRADE AND MARITIME ECONOMY ROMUALD PIETRASZEK  
WILL BEGIN MAY 20 IN WASHINGTON.

2. SPASOWSKI FIRST WANTED TO EXPLAIN TO ME HOW THE  
POLIES APPROACHED THE QUESTION OF FISHING ON THE AMERICAN  
CONTINENTAL SHELF. SPASOWSKI SAID THAT THE POLES ARE  
ANNUALLY TAKING APPROXIMATELY 300,000 TONS OF FISH  
FROM THE AMERICAN CONTINENTAL SHELF: 200,000 FROM THE  
ATLANTIC AND 100,000 FROM THE PACIFIC. THIS IS 45 PER-  
CENT OF THE TOTAL POLISH CATCH. OF THIS 300,000 TONS,  
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PAGE 02 WARSAW 03092 201031Z

20 PERCENT IS SOLD ON THE US MARKET AND 80 PERCENT ON

THE POLISH MARKET.

3. SPASOWSKI SAID THAT HE AND PIETRASZEK HAD HAD LONG TALKS BEFORE THE LATTER LEFT FOR THE US. PIETRASZEK, HE SAID, HAS TWO GOALS IN HIS TALKS IN WASHINGTON.

4. THE FIRST IS TO ATTEMPT TO EXTEND THE US-POLISH FISHERIES BILATERAL, COVERING THE NORTH ATLANTIC FISHERIES, NOT JUST BY RENEWING IT FOR ONE MORE YEAR, BUT BY RENEWING IT FOR A LONGER PERIOD. INSTEAD OF MAINTAINING THIS AGREEMENT ON A YEAR-TO-YEAR BASIS, THE POLES WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IT COVER A NUMBER OF YEARS. SPASOWSKI WAS VAGUE ABOUT HOW MANY YEARS THE POLISH SIDE HAS IN MIND, BUT ASSENTED TO FIVE, FOUR, AND THREE, OR TWO WHEN I MENTIONED THESE FIGURES. THE POLES, HE SAID, WANT TO INTRODUCE GREATER STABILITY INTO THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US IN THIS AREA AND FOR THAT PURPOSE HOPE THAT THE BILATERAL CAN SOONER OR LATER COVER A PERIOD OF A NUMBER OF YEARS. WHETHER THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED AT THE CURRENT MEETING, HE SAID, THEY DO NOT KNOW; THEY WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A START, AT LEAST, BY NOW RENEWING THE BILATERAL FOR MORE THAN ONE YEAR.

5. PIETRASZEK'S SECOND GOAL IS TO CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT COVERING FISHING IN THE PACIFIC. THERE IS NOW NO AGREEMENT ON THIS AREA, SPASOWSKI SAID, DESPITE WHICH THE POLES WISH TO OBSERVE ALL THE REGULATIONS WHICH ARE PERTINENT THERE. BUT, IN THEIR VIEW, IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO HAVE AN AGREEMENT. AGAIN, THE POLES ARE INTERESTED ULTIMATELY IN AN AGREEMENT COVERING A NUMBER OF YEARS, BUT OBVIOUSLY WOULD BE QUITE SATISFIED AT THE CURRENT MEETING TO CONCLUDE A ONE-YEAR AGREEMENT WHICH THEY COULD HOPE WOULD LATER BE MADE A MULTI-YEAR ONE.

6. OUR FISHERMEN, SPASOWSKI SAID, ARE NOT INTERESTED IN THE SAME FISH AS YOURS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT US FISHERMEN ARE INTERESTED IN TUNNA, SALMON, LOBSTER, AND PACIFIC HERRING. OURS ARE INTERESTED IN COD, HAKE, MACKEREL, AND ATLANTIC HERRING.

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PAGE 03 WARSAW 03092 201031Z

7. SPASOWSKI SAID THAT THE POLISH GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED THE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD NOT BE EASY. FOR THEM, THE QUESTION OF PROTEIN SUPPLY WAS OF HIGH PRIORITY, AS WE KNEW FROM OUR TALKS WITH THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, HIGHER EDUCATION, AND TECHNOLOGY. THE PROBLEM OF FISH BULKED A GOOD DEAL LARGER IN POLISH EYES THAN IT MIGHT IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

8. CONSEQUENTLY, SPASOWSKI SAID, HIS GOVERNMENT WISHED TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT, IN THE CURRENT FISHERIES TALKS, THE SAME SPIRIT OF US-POLISH COOPERATION WOULD PREVAIL AS HAD RECENTLY BEEN MANIFESTED IN OTHER AREAS, E.G., IN THE RECENTLY-CONCLUDED, SUCCESSFUL FINANCIAL TALKS CONDUCTED BY VICE FINANCE MINISTER KRZAK.

9. I TOLD THE VICE MINISTER THAT I WOULD TRANSMIT THE VIEWS OF HIS GOVERNMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT AND WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE US OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING THE FISHERIES TALKS GIVE THEM THE MOST SERIOUS CONSIDERATION.

10. FOLLOWING THIS PRESENTATION, SPASOWSKI RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE SEIZURE OF THE KALMAR, AS REPORTED IN THE NEXT FOLLOWING MESSAGE.  
DAVIES

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